

# RICHMOND'S NEEDS ARE POINTE OUT

Superintendent Chandler Wants More Money for Building School Houses.

## SHOULD BUY PLAYGROUNDS

Streets Should Be Determined On Before Annexation Is Continued, Says Speaker.

Richmond's needs and delinquencies in the matter of public improvements were pointed out in a series of speeches at the second of the business men's lunches at the Business Men's Club yesterday afternoon. Schools, parks, roads, sewers, libraries and bridges were all discussed with an earnestness and accuracy as to what which showed that Richmond business men are alive to the economic needs of the city.

A plea for more liberal expenditure for schools was made by Superintendent J. C. Chandler, who stated that it would take \$400,000 to bring public educational facilities in Richmond up to standard. One new building is needed in the West End, he said, and two new ones in the East End for white children, while the facilities for colored children are decidedly deficient. The colored people, he pointed out, are congested in old Jackson Ward, and there 400 children are attending school in four rooms.

**School System Inadequate.**  
The City Council has been generous enough, he said, for the last five years, having expended \$550,000 during that time, but the school system is far from adequate because of the parsimony with which it has supported the schools during the preceding twenty years. He stated that the majority of other cities of the same size expend at least one-third of their tax returns for the maintenance and improvement of their public schools, and if Richmond schools were similarly supported, there would be no cause of complaint.

He also urged that the city purchase vacant lots for the establishment of parks and playgrounds, before ever-increasing real estate values make it almost impossible to obtain the land for that purpose, where it is most needed.

The necessity for extending the city streets at the earliest possible time, in order to insure a uniform and slightly development, was emphasized by Colonel A. S. Buford. He said that there should be some provision by which the streets might be extended before outlying sections were annexed. He also favored an amendment of the State Constitution, by which part of the cost of street improvement could be charged to owners of abutting property, and excessive bonds avoided.

**City's Other Needs.**  
G. Harvey Clarke brought up the need for a good public library in Richmond, stating that the present library is a fraction of the size of Richmond has splendid libraries, which are in constant use.

Thomas P. Bryan spoke of the need of opening an either Fourteenth or Fifteenth Street in order to relieve the congestion of traffic and make access to the proposed new bridge possible. The dangerous condition of having shoekree creek open, he said, through the center of the city was pointed out by Major L. T. Christian.

There was practically a full attendance upon the meeting, fifty business men having been invited. The committee in charge was composed of W. H. Adams, chairman; J. T. Palmatory and H. C. Bess, Jr., members. Also present were: W. D. Browning, R. McC. Buldington, A. S. Buford, Jr., W. E. Buford, J. C. Bristow, M. J. Caples, Charles S. Clark, J. P. Clark, H. L. Cain, G. Harvey, Clarke, George E. Crawford, C. P. Cade, Arthur E. Chapman, A. S. Cary, Leon Clarke, William C. Caudill, J. W. Cline, Jr., A. J. Cavaugh, T. M. Carrington, J. A. Craft, W. L. Carrel, Jr., R. W. Carrington, T. Archibald, Gary, Dr. J. A. C. Chandler, Walter G. Crenshaw, W. C. Crenshaw, J. C. Christian, L. E. Christian, Thomas Christian, J. C. Christian, T. P. Bryan, Alvin M. Smith, Amos M. Gover, H. W. Rountree, B. T. Jefferson, O. J. Sands, W. T. Reed, W. S. P. Mayo, L. W. Curry, J. G. Pollard, R. E. Piper.

**Drowned in Swollen Creek.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Freeling, Va., March 19.—Benjamin Mulholland, a colored man, was drowned Saturday while attempting to drive a team across Pound River at the mouth of McClure Creek. The stream was much swollen from the recent rains, and the team was washed about two miles. The body has not been recovered. The party of men went from Clintwood to aid in the search. The drowned man was about twenty-five years of age, and leaves a widow and three children.

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## MURDEN STOKELY ON TRIAL FOR LIFE

Jury Quickly Selected and Taking of Testimony Is Begun.

## INSANITY WILL BE PLEA

Girl Over Who Shooting Took Place Tells Story on Stand.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Elizabeth City, N. C., March 19.—Murden Stokely, the youthful slayer of J. Fenton Towse, prominent young merchant and mill man of Chapanoke, was formally arraigned in Superior Court to-day at 10 o'clock, and was immediately put on trial for his life. At 3 o'clock the last of the jury had been selected and had taken his seat in the box. The prosecution of the case is eight farmers, three clerks and one other. Five of them are middle-aged men and seven young men.

The State introduced several witnesses, who testified as to the actual shooting which occurred in Armstrong's stable here three weeks ago. No one was an eyewitness of the whole shooting, and each testified to different phases of it.

While the State was taking this testimony, Belle Stokely, the sixteen-year-old sister of the prisoner, came into court with her three-week-old baby. The meeting between brother and sister was affectionate, but each soon regained composure. Miss Stokely was the first witness introduced by the defense. The State soon discovered the plan of the defense to lay the foundation for an insanity plea, and objected to her testimony in regard to her relations with Towse. The objections were sustained by Judge Whedbee, and the witness was recalled. After the plan for the insanity plea had been outlined in court in the absence of the jury.

Murden Stokely next took the stand, and by his testimony, the defense laid the foundation for insanity. Stokely told of his love for his young sister, and the great grief that caused him when he learned of her condition. He told of the shooting, and maintained that Towse refused to marry his sister, and spoke bitterly of her. On cross-examination he stuck to his story and made a good witness.

## TAFT HAS MISSED COLONEL'S PICTURE

Washington, March 19.—Former President Taft has missed one personal belonging, which he left when he went to the White House—a picture of Theodore Roosevelt, which hung on the east wall of his private office. Several days before he started for Augusta, the President took down the only other picture in his sanctum, that of his father, Alphonso Taft, but the Roosevelt picture has been hanging ever since President Wilson assumed office. To-day a letter came to the White House office requesting that the picture be taken down and sent to the New Haven Hotel, where Mr. Taft expects to live for some months after he takes up his duties as a Yale professor.

## GREAT DRIGIBLE IS BROKEN IN TWO

Gust of Wind Strikes Military Balloon and Wrecks It.

Karlruhe, Germany, March 19.—Two months after her first flight, the German military dirigible of the Zeppelin type, known as "Substitute Z. L. 1," was wrecked in a storm. She was broken in two this afternoon while attempting a landing after a twenty-four-hour flight. The start was made from Oos, a village of Baden, where the balloon was stationed.

The pilots intended to return to Oos, but finally decided, on account of the gusty wind, which reached a velocity of forty-five miles an hour, to anchor at Karlsruhe.

They had not yet finished the work of anchoring when a terrific gust buckled the forward half of the dirigible. Another gust lifted the airship and a detachment of soldiers, who were clinging to the ropes, was forced to release their hold. The aluminum frames began to break away, and the whole structure collapsed, the nose of the dirigible breaking off.

The "Substitute Z. L. 1" made a trial flight on January 16, and on two occasions afterwards made very satisfactory flights. The dirigible was accepted by the War Department February 15. Her length was 110 metres (approximately 460 feet), and her speed exceeded fifty miles an hour.

# CENSUS MAKES REPORT ON VIRGINIA'S PEOPLE

Composition and Characteristics of the Old Dominion's Population.

Washington, March 19.—The composition and characteristics of the population of Virginia, as reported at the thirteenth decennial census, are given in an advance bulletin soon to be issued by Director Durand, of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. It was prepared under the supervision of William C. Hunt, chief statistician for population. Statistics of color, nativity, parentage, sex, state of birth, citizenship, age, illiteracy, school attendance, marital condition, and dwellings and families are presented. They are grouped as follows: For the State and for counties and independent cities; for cities of more than 25,000 inhabitants; for cities of 10,000 to 25,000; for places of 2,500 to 10,000; and for wards of Norfolk and Richmond, the two cities of more than 50,000 inhabitants. A previous population bulletin for Virginia gave the number of inhabitants by counties and minor civil divisions, the decennial increase and the density of population, and the proportions urban and rural. That and the forthcoming bulletin cover all the principal topics of the population census except occupations and ownership of homes.

**Color and Nativity.**  
The white population is divided into four groups: (1) Native, native parentage—that is, having both parents born in the United States; (2) native, foreign parentage—having one parent born abroad; (3) native, mixed parentage—having one parent native and the other foreign born; (4) foreign born. Of the total population of Virginia, 1,588,890, or 67.4 per cent, are whites, and 771,995, or 32.6 per cent, are negroes. The corresponding percentages in 1900 were 64.3 and 35.6, respectively, the proportion of whites having increased somewhat during the decade. In thirty-seven of the one hundred counties negroes constitute less than one-fourth of the population; in thirty-two counties the percentage negro is between 25 and 50, and in thirty-one exceeds 50. Native whites of native parentage constitute 64.3 per cent of the total population of the State, and 56.4 per cent of the white population. Native whites of foreign or mixed parentage constitute only 1.8 per cent of the total population, and foreign-born whites only 1.3 per cent.

Of the urban population, 53.4 per cent are native whites of native parentage; of the rural, 65.7 per cent. The corresponding proportions for native whites of foreign or mixed parentage are 4.5 and 1.1 per cent, respectively. The percentage of native whites of foreign or mixed parentage is 2.9 in the urban population and 0.8 in the rural; the percentage of negroes is 33.2 in the urban and 32.4 in the rural.

**Sex.**  
In the total population of the State there are 1,635,348 males and 1,026,264 females, or 100.9 males to 100 females. In 1900 the ratio was 99.7 to 100. Among the whites there are 1,628 males to 1,000 females; among the negroes, 97.1 males to 100 females. The ratio is 101.8 to 100, as compared with 169 to 100 for the foreign-born whites. In the urban population there are 94 males to 100 females, and in the rural, 162.

**State of Birth.**  
Of the total native population—that is, population born in the United States—90.8 per cent were born in Virginia, and 9.2 per cent outside the State. Of the native-born population, 10.6 per cent were born outside the State, and of the native negro, 7.1 per cent. Persons born outside the State constitute a larger proportion of the native population in urban than in rural communities.

**Foreign Nationalities.**  
Of the foreign-born white population of Virginia, persons born in Russia represent 18.4 per cent; Germany, 15.9; England, 14.3; Ireland, 9.2; Italy, 9.2; Hungary, 8.7; Canada, 8.7; Austria, 8.7; Scotland, 4.7; all other countries, 14.3 per cent. Of the total white stock of foreign origin, which includes persons born abroad and also natives having one or both parents born abroad, Germany contributed 23.9 per cent; Ireland, 14.7; England, 14.6; Russia, 11.8; Italy, 8.3; Scotland, 4.9; Canada, 4.6; Hungary, 3.8; Austria, 3.4 per cent.

**Voting and Militia Ages.**  
The total number of males twenty-one years of age and over is 523,552, representing 31.4 per cent of the population. Of such males, 69.5 per cent are whites and 30.5 per cent are negroes. Native whites represent 66.6 per cent of the total number and foreign-born whites 2.8 per cent. Of the total native population, 13.2 per cent are under 21 years of age, and 86.8 per cent are 21 years of age and over. The percentage of males 21 years of age and over is 56.1 for males and 56.5 for females, and the percentage of females 21 years of age and over is 56.1 for males and 56.5 for females. The percentages of those reported as divorced, 0.3 and 0.4, respectively, are believed to be too small, because of the probability that many divorced persons class themselves as single or widowed.

That the percentage single is so much smaller for women than for men may be largely due to the fact that many women have been married several times. The females from fifteen to nineteen years of age are married, as compared with 1.1 per cent of the males, and 56.5 per cent of the females from twenty to twenty-four years of age are married, as compared with 2.4 per cent of the males. In the next age group, twenty-five to twenty-nine years, the difference is less marked, and among those 30 years of age and over the percentage married is higher among the males.

There is a larger proportion of widows than of widowers, may indicate that men more often remarry than women, but, since husbands are generally older than their wives, the marriage relationship is more often broken by the death of the husband than by the death of the wife.

For many elements of the population the percentages of married persons among those fifteen years of age and over are as follows: Foreign-born whites, 55.9 for males, 59.9 for females; native whites of native parentage, 57.1 and 58, respectively; native whites of foreign or mixed parentage, 47.6 and 49.5; negroes, 54.3 and 53.2.

These percentages by no means indicate the relative tendency of the sexes to marry, as regards marriage. To determine that, the comparison should be made by age periods, since the proportion married in any class is determined largely by the proportion who have reached the marrying age. Similarly, the proportion widowed depends largely on the proportion past middle life. The percentage married for males and for females is higher in rural than in urban communities.

The total number of dwellings in Virginia is 406,445, and the total number of families 419,452, there being 1.7 families to each 100 dwellings. The average number of persons per dwelling is 5.1, and the average number per family 4.9.

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# NEWS OF SOUTH RICHMOND

## SEND 100,000 VOLTS

**High Power Wires Between Richmond and Petersburg Tested Yesterday.**  
Electric power, with an estimated voltage of 100,000, was transmitted yesterday afternoon for the first time over the high tension cables recently strung across Chesterfield County, between this city and Petersburg, by the Virginia Railway and Power Company. The current was turned on at 5 o'clock for a trial. Before being put into regular use, the entire line will be inspected for leakage.

The wires, four in number, are stretched at the top of steel towers sixty feet in height. The line connects the power plant on the Appomattox River with the plant being built in this city. It will be used when anything becomes wrong at either plant. The loss sustained last winter by the breakage of the dam near Petersburg, which put the electric lines of the Cocke City out of commission, cannot be repeated when the transmission line is in operation.

The Virginia Railway and Power Company has been working several years on the construction of the line. Steel towers, twelve feet square at the base and two feet square at the top, were erected every 150 feet for twenty miles. From Richmond the towers stretch run along the route of the Seaboard Air Line Railway to Centerville. At that point they follow the company's right of way to a transforming plant at Chester, and then cut across country on private property to Petersburg.

Workmen have been sent out to post warning signs on each tower. All persons are ordered to keep away from the property, and a reward is offered for the conviction of all violators.

**With Southside Police.**  
Until the police have time to investigate his record, R. H. Slater, alleged as a suspicious character, suspected of larceny, will be detained in the City Jail. When arraigned before Justice H. A. Maurice yesterday morning in Police Court, Part II, the man was given ten days.

James Haley, charged with being drunk and unable to care for himself, was fined \$50 and costs. Edward Keys, colored, charged with felonious assault, and awaiting action of the grand jury, was released yesterday morning on \$250 bond.

"Rud" Keys, colored, was turned over to the county authorities for trial on a charge of shooting a rap.

**Preparing to Open Forest Hill Park.**  
Many improvements will greet the patrons of Forest Hill Park when the gates are thrown open for the summer season Monday morning. In addition to the features of last year, several more have been secured and others will be built immediately.

Work on one of the biggest features of the park will begin in about ten days. A combination dancing pavilion and skating rink will be constructed just behind the great car loop. It is expected that the new building will be finished by May 1. The lighting system of the park has also been overhauled and will be in better shape than last season.

**Funeral of Mrs. Blanton.**  
Funeral services over the body of Mrs. Sarah E. Blanton, sixty-eight years old, who died Tuesday morning at her home, 207 Pocahontas Street, will be held this morning at 10:30 o'clock from the Oak Grove Baptist Church. Interment will be in Maury Cemetery.

**Small Theft Reported to Police.**  
Numerous cases of petty thievery have been reported to the Southside police within the past few days. The latest loss is that of A. P. Smith, who reports that a watch valued at \$10 was stolen from his home.

**Democratic Club to Meet Again.**  
For the first time in three months, the South Richmond Democratic Club will meet. The session will be held to-morrow night at 8 o'clock in the National Hall. Plans for a rousing political rally will be made. The number of legislative candidates is increasing, and all will be given an opportunity to talk to the Southside voters.

**Form Educational League To-Night.**  
The first regular meeting of the newly organized Southside Co-Operative Educational League will be held to-night at 8 o'clock in the assembly room of the Powhatan School. The adoption of by-laws and the election of officers will be the main business before the meeting.

**King's Daughters Meet at Hospital.**  
In order that the entire body can assist in the arrangements, the Swansboro Circle, King's Daughters, will meet this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the hospital.

**Sheltering Arms Hospital, where it satisfactory arrangements can be made with the management, a bed will be enjoyed.**

**Hear Small Suit To-Day.**  
In Justice Court, Part II, this morning Judge Ernest H. Wells will hear evidence in the suit of Gebhardt Butcher against J. F. and M. J. Talley. The suit is an action for unlawful detainer. The plaintiff is represented by Frank T. Sutton, Jr.

**Improving Carrier Service.**  
With the idea of improving the carrier service on the Southside, A. L. Bradley, assistant to the superintendent of mails at the Richmond post-office, is spending a week at Manchester station. Every route will be inspected in order that a more efficient service can be supplied. Several of the routes have been recently extended and an effort will be made to make the time of delivery quicker.

**Purchases Hull Street Property.**  
Unimproved property on Hull Street is being utilized for the erection of modern business houses and very few sites remain on the market for any length of time. Yesterday one of the best locations on the Southside changed hands. J. Thompson Brown & Co. are the new owners of a lot on Hull Street, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth, which they acquired from Ashton, Starke and wife. The property has a frontage of eighty-one feet, and sold for \$6,675.

**Personal Mention.**  
Mrs. M. L. Walker left yesterday on a visit to her mother in Philadelphia. Mrs. R. J. Finley, who recently suffered a stroke of paralysis, is seriously ill at her home, 1423 Hull Street.

Frank L. Lutz returned yesterday from Glassboro, N. J., where he was called by the death of his brother.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Rinkley, of Cincinnati, who have been the guests of Mrs. William Crozier, have returned home.

Raymond Paul has returned home from Virginia Polytechnic Institute for the Easter holidays.

# THIRD PARTY WILL ASK RECOGNITION

Progressives in House Hope to Secure Places on Committees.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Washington, March 19.—That there will be a third party, or Progressive organization, in the House, was made plain to-day by the announcement of Representative Hinebaugh, of Illinois, Progressive, that a conference of Progressives will be held April 2, and that Representative Murdock, of Kansas, will be floor leader of the new party in the House, and candidate for Speaker. Hinebaugh to-morrow will send out a circular letter to thirty Progressive and Progressive Republican members, asking them to attend a conference. He claims to have at least a dozen members pledged to join the new movement.

The Progressives will demand places as Progressives on the House committee, and hope to obtain a seat on the Ways and Means Committee.

A caucus of the regular Republicans will be held April 1. A call for this caucus will be sent out to-morrow. By calling their conference three days ahead of the regular Republicans, the Progressives hope to outvote a number of "progressive Republicans" who are said to be "on the fence."

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